[Shri Sukomal Sen] i(is a fleet of some aircraft owned *by* a particular perso$_n$ or a group of persons. A numbe$_r$ of times these aircraft have been detained by the WIP$_B$ for their foreign tou$_r$ not on]y this time but the last time also the j same thing happened and as a result of this many flight schedule$_s$ were upset and many flights were cancelled. It caused tremendous hardship to the passengers. These passengers were booked fo$_r$ Londo$_n$ or elsewhere to foreign countries. At the last moment their flight$_s$ were cancelled saying that they cannot fly-They were told that the$_v$ have to fly by some other carriers. That was also not certain. It creates tremendous hardship t$_0$ the passengers. So the Government should take care.

Now, Madam, the point Js that it is not only a question of loss but also the credibility of Air India. On that day I found in the newspapers that the Managing Director of Air India had come out with a statement saying that it did not cause any financial loss to the Airline because the Government wa$_s$ making up the loss by way of payment. When the passengers are booked for London, Dubai or anywhere by this airliner at the last moment they were told that the Prime Minister or President or anybody else would fly somewhere and so you$_r$ flight ^{is} cancelled, then, how people will rely o$_n$ this airline? That is the main point. Have you ever heard any time that KLM flight or Lufthansa flight or the British Airways flight being cancelled because the Quee$_n$ or the President or the Prime Minster of those countries will flv and that is why the number of flights are cancelled in thos$_e$ airlines? Have you ever heard? Nobody ever heard that any foreign airliners hav$_e$ cancelled thei$_r$ flight because VVIPs of thei$_r$ countrie$_s$ are flying. So, thi$_s$ is .something astonishing that is happening i$_n$ our country as if it is the personal property of someone. That is why, I would request that we should purchase the recuired numbe$_r$ of aircraft carriers. The Government i$_s$ spending lavishly money for many things. The Government is paying kickbacks, receiving kickbacks. What is the difficulty in procuring some more aircraft aijd receiving some more kickbacks? They can have some more aircraft, some iet$_s$ or some more aircraft they car. have and earn money also in the process. So, I would request that the Government may spend money and acquire aircraft So that passengers ar$_e$ not put to hardship. If it is. not done, it will cause a los$_s$ of credibility of the Air India. It is our national flag carrier. It should be recalled and remembered by the Government. That is why, I request through you. Madam, that the Government should take care of it and in future, thi$_s$ thing should not happen.

Technical defects in 'Pawan Hans' helicopters

SHBI VISHWA BANDHU GUPTA (Delhi): Madnm Deputy Chairman, I have also to talk unfortunately about aircraft but I am talking about helicopter. Thi$_s$ Westland helicopte$_r$ has had a series of situations where some helicopters have crashed, some have endangered lives, i$_n$ some cases, engines have failed and so on. Madam, recently, i$_n$ Jammu and Kashmir, the Westland helicopter of this type was carrying three Ministers and one of the engines failed. There was a loud noise and it had to land. Similarly, one of the helicopters had crashed at Vaishno Devi and some pilgrim$_s$ were killed. Now a question arises whether this helicopter is suitable to operate at these heights or not. But what I would urge upo$_n$ the Government is to check whether this helv copter is suitable at these heights and whether it is a suitable aircraft by itself for operation in hot and cold conditions that we have in our country. Madam, although Westland is $_a$ very well known manufacturer, re-

cently, a number of cases have come to light in which the fleet that we have already in India from them, pernaps, 40 to 50 per cent of that fleet K already grounded for one reason or the other. I would like the Government of India gg well "as the DGCA to very carefully look into, this matter and come with a full report to see that the lives of the pas-rs who are travelling by West-land helicopters are not endangered.

SHRl SATYA PRAKASH MALA-VIYA (Uttar Pradesh)* Madam, I am on a point of order. There is no Minister in the House. Let us stop the proceedings. It is an insult to the House. Summon the Prime Minister here. The Prime Minister should ummoned... (Interruptions)...

SHRl M. S. % GURUPADASWAMY (Karnataka): Madam, may I suggest, please adjourn the House for some *(Interruptions)*..

SHRl SATYA PRAKASH MALA-n.djourn the Hou=e. *(Interruptions)* ..

उप सभापति सुनिए -सुनिए.....
(व्यवधान) आप मेरी बात को सुनिए।

एक माननीय सदस्य : महोदया, यह हाउस का अपमान है। ....(व्यवधान)

उप-सभापति : आप मेरी बात तो सुनिए जब तक कोई मिनिस्टर नहीं आते हैं हम सदन की कार्यवाही रोकते हैं।...
(व्यवधान)

No, I am not adjourning. We will wait till the Minister comes.

SHRl SATYA PRAKASH MALA-VIYA: Why are you not summoning the Prime Minister?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now you can continue, Mr. Kapil Verma.
. (Interruptions).

SHBl GURUDAS DAS GUPTA (West*Bengal); Madam, I am on a point of order. The Government side must apologise for it. The Minister must apologise. *(Interruptions).*

SHRl GURUDAS DAS GUPTA; He must apologise. (Interruptions).

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRl M. M. JACOB): I am sorry, i went inside to meet the Chairman. *(.Interruptions*).

SHRl GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Where were your other colleagues? (Interruptions).

SHRl PARiVATHANENI • UPENDRA: What about the Minister on roster duty Ine Minister is supposed to be on roster duty. Where is he? .. (Interruptions).

SHRl MURASOLI MARAN (Tamjl Nadu). Who is the Minister on roster duty?

SFRl M. M. JACOB; I assure the Hou_e that I will ensure the presence of the Ministers on roster duty in the House. *(Interruptions).* I am sorry for their absence. *(Interruptions)* .

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, aU/ of you, sit down, please. Mr. Kapil Verma.

Reported acquisition of nuclear submarines by Pakistan from China

SHRl KAPIL VERMA (Uttar Pradesh): Madam, I want to raise an important issue. Great concern has been caused to the country by reports that Pakistan is acquiring as many as three nuclear submarines from China. To add further to our anxieties, the latest news is that China is giving several F-7P planes to Pakistan.

According to the "Defence and Foreign Affairs Weekly", active negotiations have already taken place and Pakistan may take its navy into the nuclear pge with the Chinese-built